[16th July 1953

House rent allowance for the menial staff of Vijayavada Municipality.

* 528 *Q.*—SRI T. POTHA RAJU : Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Vijayavada Municipality in its C.R. No. 1087, dated the 30th November 1951, granted interim relief of Rs. 15 per mensem to all its staff;

(*b*) whether the municipal council in the same resolution also granted a house rent allowance of Rs. 5 to all its menial staff;

(*c*) whether a communication, dated the 5th December 1951, was received from the Vijayavada Municipality requesting the Government to pass orders on the resolution in view of the fact that the muncipality's financial position could afford to meet the extra expenditure; and

(*d*) whether orders were passed as requested and, if not, why not?

THE HON. SRI N. SANKARA REDDI :—" (*a*) & (*b*) The Municipal Council requested the Government to sanction an interim relief of Rs. 15 to all municipal employees and to sanction house rent allowance to sweepers and scavengers also.

" (*c*) The Commissioner communicated a copy of the resolution of the Municipal Council on the subject and solicited the orders of Government.

" (*d*) The proposals of the Municipal Council were not approved, as they were not acceptable. The Government have since passed orders permitting all Municipal Councils to pay house rent allowance to their conservancy staff at Rs. 3 (three) per mensem provided the municipal councils can meet the expenditure from their own funds without any grant from Government."

SRI T. POTHA RAJU :—" Are the Government aware of the fact that though the Government have sanctioned a meagre amount of Rs. 3 as house rent allowance the workers have not been paid even that sum of Rs. 3; and if so, will the Government take immediate action and see that the workers are paid without any further delay? "

THE HON. SRI N. SANKARA REDDI :—" Permission has been given to all the Municipal Councils, who can afford to meet the expenditure, to pay the allowance."

SRI C. V. K. RAO :—" The Hon. Minister for Local Administration has stated that the Government have not accepted the resolution of the Municipal Council. If this is the way, I would like to know how this Government is going to respect the resolutions of Municipal Councils."

THE HON. SRI N. SANKARA REDDI :—" The grant of interim relief of Rs. 15 to all municipal employees was not accepted by the Government."